

Bearing Fruit

Matthew 21:33-46

Main idea: To emphasize the importance of bearing fruit in Christian life and provide practical steps for doing so

Topic: Bearing Fruit

Suggestions for moving forward with your sermon on the topic of "Bearing Fruit" based on Matthew 21:33-46:

1. Emphasize the importance of recognizing God's ownership: Expand on the parable of the vineyard owner and highlight the concept of stewardship. Use Luke 12:42-48 to illustrate the responsibility of faithful servants and the consequences of unfaithfulness.
2. Discuss the role of Jesus as the true vine: Incorporate John 15:1-8 to emphasize the connection between bearing fruit and abiding in Christ. Explain how our relationship with Jesus enables us to bear fruit that glorifies God.
3. Explore the different types of fruit: Expand on Galatians 5:22-23, known as the fruits of the Spirit. Discuss how these qualities manifest in the lives of believers and how they contribute to bearing fruit for God's kingdom.
4. Address the consequences of not bearing fruit: Refer to John 15:1-8 again to highlight Jesus' warning about being cut off from the vine if we fail to bear fruit. Discuss the implications of this for our spiritual growth and impact on others.

5. Provide practical steps for bearing fruit: Offer practical suggestions for your listeners to cultivate a fruitful life, such as spending time in prayer and studying God's Word, engaging in acts of service, and nurturing relationships with fellow believers.

6. Highlight the importance of accountability: Incorporate Hebrews 10:24-25 to encourage your audience to spur one another on towards love and good deeds. Emphasize the role of community in supporting and challenging each other to bear fruit.

7. Use language insights from the original Greek text: Explore the Greek word for "fruit" (karpos) and its various meanings in different contexts. Highlight other passages where this word is used, such as Galatians 5:19-21, to contrast the works of the flesh with the fruits of the Spirit.

Remember to weave these additional ideas seamlessly into your existing sermon outline, reinforcing your main points and providing a well-rounded perspective on bearing fruit.